

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 19 and 23. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 19, 21-23, and 25-28 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Examiner Objections

Claims 19 and 23 were objected to because of informalities. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his careful review and the claims have been amended to correct the informalities.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 22 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Choe et al (US 2004/0114732 A1) in view of Heinonen et al (US 6,671,370). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of the rejection of these claims.

The Choe reference discloses an apparatus and method for editing a ring back tone – Editable Personalized Ring Back Tone service. Choe teaches providing a means for a subscriber to personalize a ringback tone for playback to a caller. Choe also teaches an Internet Data Center (IDC) for retrieving a ringback tone and providing it to a caller (para. [0026]). The IDC is not actually connected to the Internet; the IDC is used by the Data Network (30) to store and provide editable ringback tones to ringback tone service subscribers. Further, Choe teaches recognizing a subscriber to the ringback tone service and then delivering the called party's ringback message to the calling party's switch (para [0029])(note that there is a distinction between the ringback tone subscriber and the non-subscriber – paragraph [0029], lines 2-4). Choe indicates that if the called party is not a subscriber to the service, a network generated tone will be returned to the calling party. (para. [0029])

The problem addressed by claim 19 of the present invention is how to initiate the provision of multimedia information that is related to a terminal unable to generate the

multimedia information. The Applicant's specification states, "In the embodiment of Figure 2 the calling party's terminal can be a terminal that is not able to send multimedia information itself. In that embodiment a service network SN2 is used to send the multimedia information..." (page 12, lines 13-17). In other words, if the calling party terminal can't send multimedia data to the network, triggered by a demand, or trigger, in the calling party's profile, sends multimedia data to the called party in place of the calling party terminal. This also applies in the reverse where the called party can't send data to the calling party or network.

The called or calling party terminal may be incapable of actually providing the multimedia data to the calling party (see above). To remedy this situation, the Applicant teaches a core network node receiving a call set up message from, e.g., the calling party, and the node checking the profile of the calling party and providing a multimedia identification of the called party as a result of a trigger in the called party's subscriber data stored in the network. Called party subscriber data is retrieved by the network node and in the situation that the called party is unable to provide the data, the called party data/profile includes a demand, or trigger, for a multimedia response from the "network address or URL"; that is, the core network node reads the subscriber data and reacts to the demand by providing an address of the multimedia data associated with the called terminal and the calling party accesses the address.

The Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to independent claim 19:

19. (Currently Amended) A method, in a telecommunications network, of providing multimedia information associated with a called party terminal to a calling party terminal, the method, performed by a core network node, comprising the steps of:

retrieving subscriber data of the called party, wherein the subscriber data comprises a demand for presenting the multimedia information;

receiving in the core network node a call set up message comprising an identification of the called party,

recognizing, according to the subscriber data and the received identification of the called party, the demand for providing the multimedia information, and

sending a network address or Universal Resource Locator (URL) address to the calling party terminal for retrieving the multimedia information. (emphasis added)

The Applicant respectfully submits that the Choe and Heinonen references do not teach or suggest sending a network address containing the multimedia information associated with the called terminal to the calling party terminal. The cited portion of Choe, paragraph [0028] and 202-203 of Fig. 2, does not disclose retrieving subscriber data for the called party or subscriber data including a demand for presenting the multimedia information.

Choe in paragraph [0029] is cited for recognizing “the demand for providing the multimedia information”. The Applicant respectfully submits that the access to the IDC is based on the account information, in which there is no indication in Choe that a demand or trigger is included that causes the multimedia information to be presented.

The Detailed Action states that Choe fails to teach “sending a network address...”; the Applicant agrees. The Heinonen reference is then cited for disclosing “sending a network address or Universal Resource Locator (URL) to the calling party terminal for retrieving the multimedia information.” Note that the cited portion of Heinonen (column 4, lines 8-18) begins with “[I]n sending ringing information to a recipient handset the calling handset utilizes...” (line 8-9). The recipient handset is a called handset, with the calling handset doing the sending. This is the opposite of the rejected limitation in claim 19, which reads “sending a network address or Universal Resource Locator (URL) address to the calling party ...”. Therefore, Heinonen does not disclose “sending ... to the calling party terminal...”; Heinonen discloses sending to the recipient (called) terminal. This being the case, the Applicant respectfully submits that neither Choe nor Heinonen disclose the above discussed limitations. The Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of amended independent claim 19 and analogous independent claims 23 and 27.

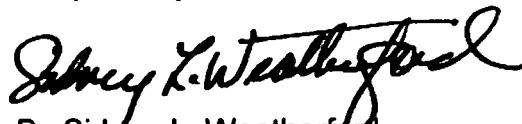
Claims 22 and 26 depend from independent claims 19 and 23 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of these claims. Therefore, the allowance of claims 22 and 26 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sidney L. Weatherford", written in a cursive style.

By Sidney L. Weatherford
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